SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH : According to the information that we have - I have some data with me - the estimated number of cases and the cases on record are definitely going down. But if there is a particular piece of information which the hon. Member ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI BASU DEV ACHARIA : Is my district, Purulia...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH : In Bengal, according to the information that we have - I do not have the district-wise figures right now - the estimated number of cases in 1981 was 4.3 lakhs and the cases on record now are lass than 60,000 but if there is a particular district where there is a worsening situation, I would like to be informed so that we can take appropriate steps. We will check up the data on Purulia.

Regarding the major recommendations of the Swaminathan Committee for the elimination of leprosy by the year 2000 A.D., my submission for the consideration of the House is that it is within reach. We had 39 lakh cases in 1981 and we are now talking of around 5.5 lakh cases. It should be possible to make substantial progress because now the infrastructure is there, particularly in the endemic districts. I would submit that - as hon. Members know - if there was any shortfall in this, I would have stated it very clearly. But on diphtheria, on polic and on leprosy, we are making significant advances and we should encourage our field staff to go in for final solutions now. If there are specific suggestions, we would welcome them.

*[Translation]*

**Compulsory and Free Primary Education**

*244. SHRI SHATRUGHAN PRASAD SINGH : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the scheme envisaged by the Government to fulfil the constitutional obligations of compulsory and free primary education;

(b) the details of grants provided for various schemes such as Mid-day meal, Operation Blackboard and other educational schemes etc., State-wise and scheme-wise; and

(c) the extent to which these schemes have proved useful?

*[English]*

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI S.R. BOMMAI) : (a) to (c). A statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha.

**STATEMENT**

(a) In pursuance of Article 45 of the Directive Principles of the Constitution, 14 States and 4 Union Territories have enacted legislations for making primary education compulsory. Most States have exempted all children in primary schools from payment of tuition fees. In addition, Government is working out the modalities of making elementary education a fundamental right under the Constitution.

(b) State-wise and scheme-wise details of grants provided in 1995-96 under Centrally Sponsored Schemes of Operation Blackboard, Non-Formal Education and DPEP are given in *Annexure*. Under the National Programme of Nutritional Support to Primary Education, commonly known as Mid-Day Meal Scheme, States are provided foodgrains through the Food Corporation of India and no grants are released to them directly. This Department provided an amount of Rs. 441.21 crore to FCI for this purpose in 1995-96.

(c) These Centrally sponsored schemes have augmented the efforts of State Governments to achieve Universalisation of Elementary Education by improving infrastructure of primary schools, converting single teacher primary schools to dual teacher schools and providing necessary teaching learning materials under Operation Blackboard; opportunities for non-formal education to approdximately 70 lakh children in 6-14 age group and nutritional supplement to 5.54 crore primary school children in 4426 Blocks. DPEP seeks to revitalise the primary education system in selected districts through integrated planning and decentralised implementation.

**ANNEXURE**

*State-wise details of Grants released under schemes of Elementary Education in the Year 1995-96*

(Rs. in lakhs)

| S.No. | State Government/ Union Territory | Operation Blackboard (1995-96) | N.F.E. (1995-96) | DPEP (1995-96) |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 1. | Andhra Pradesh | 2025.00 | 885.92 | |
| 2. | Arunachal Pradesh | 109.57 | 7.84 | |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 3. | Assam | 3250.00 | 778.71 | 1929.18 |
| 4. | Bihar | 1939.04 | 3154.79 | - |
| 5. | Goa | 55.03 | - | - |
| 6. | Gujarat | 1696.60 | 100.27 | - |
| 7. | Haryana | 25.52 | 49.83 | 1560.95 |
| 8. | Himachal Pradesh | 813.02 | 16.17 | - |
| 9. | Jammu & Kashmir | 1355.86 | 99.86 | - |
| 10. | Karnataka | 1381.10 | 19.53 | 2214.91 |
| 11. | Kerala | 767.48 | - | 1901.85 |
| 12. | Madhya Pradesh | 96.66 | 2506.99 | 6718.65 |
| 13. | Maharashtra | 5559.72 | 128.05 | 2929.92 |
| 14. | Manipur | - | 183.34 | - |
| 15. | Meghalaya | 897.39 | - | - |
| 16. | Mizoram | 20.72 | 9.03 | - |
| 17. | Nagaland | 184.50 | - | - |
| 18. | Orissa | 3899.57 | 1900.31 | - |
| 19. | Punjab | - | - | - |
| 20. | Rajasthan | 2591 | 1152.99 | - |
| 21. | Sikkim | - | - | - |
| 22. | Tamil Nadu | - | 189.33 | 2138.65 |
| 23. | Tripura | 27.78 | - | - |
| 24. | Uttar Pradesh | - | 4039.45 | - |
| 25. | West Bengal | - | 59.64 | - |
| 26. | A & N Islands | - | - | - |
| 27. | Chandigarh | - | 3.52 | - |
| 28. | D & N Haveli | - | 3.17 | - |
| 29. | Daman & Diu | - | - | - |
| 30. | Delhi | 76.44 | 49.21 | - |
| 31. | Lakshadweep | - | - | - |
| 32. | Pondicherry | 19.20 | - | - |
| | Total | 26793.40 | 15340.95 | 19394.02 |

*[Translation]*

SHRI SHATRUGHAN PRASAD SINGH : Regarding the figures given in Annexure-I I would like to know the reason for not providing grant to the backward districts of Bihar and Orissa under District Primary Education Programme 1995-96 to fulfil the goal of providing free and compulsory education.

*[English]*

SHRI S.R. BOMMAI : Sir, grants have been given to all the States. The figures given in the Annexure are only for the year 1995-96. The other States have been given grants earlier. I would like to give the figures for those States. I have the figures.

The State of Bihar has been given Rs. 160.26 crore during the Eighth Five Year Plan.

*[Translation]*

SHRI SHATRUGHAN PRASAD SINGH : On District Primary Education Programme...*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

SHRI S.R. BOMMAI : We have given that. In the Annexure, the figures are given only for the year 1995-96. This scheme is in force for the last seven or eight year. Those State have been given assistance during the previous years also.

*[Translation]*

SHRI SHATRUGHAN PRASAD SINGH : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Minister has not gone through his own reply. I specifically want to know as to why did the Government not allocate any amount to the backward district of Bihar and Orissa under DPEP, 1995-96?

*[English]*

SHRI S.R. BOMMAI : Sir, there are different schemes. Moneys have been released to the States under different schemes. I would like to give the figures separately which the hon. Member wants.

The DPEP has been implemented in eleven States. For Assam, an amount of Rs. 707.82 lakh had been released during the year 1994-95. During 1995-96, Rs. 1,959.18 lakhs were allotted.

MR. SPEAKER : You can lay all these figures on the Table of the House.

SHRI S.R. BOMMAI : I will lay it on the Table of the House.

*[Translation]*

SHRI SHATRUGHAN PRASAD SINGH : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I seek your protection. The hon. Minister is not replying to my question. I want to know the reason for not providing fund to Bihar.

*[English]*

MR. SPEAKER : You please tell him about Bihar. You just give the figure for Bihar.

SHRI S.R. BOMMAI : I have given the figure for Bihar also.

*[Translation]*

SHRI SHATRUGHAN PRASAD SINGH : It is nil in the details.

*[English]*

You please read out the figure...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Please listen to the hon. Minister.

SHRI S.R. BOMMAI : Under Mid-Day Meal Scheme we give foodgrains. Wheat has been given...

SHRI MADHUKAR SARPOTDAR : The question is different and the answer is different.

SHRI S.R. BOMMAI : Sir, assistance is given under different schemes.

SHRI SHATRUGHAN PRASAD SINGH : I want the figure for District Primary Education Programme.

SHRI S.R. BOMMAI : The scheme is not implemented in the State of Bihar.

MR. SPEAKER : This scheme is not implemented in Bihar.

SHRI SHATRUGHAN PRASAD SINGH : Why so?

SHRI S.R. BOMMAI : Sir, this scheme is implemented where the States come forward. If the Bihar Government comes forward to demand this scheme, we will implement it.

*[Translation]*

SHRI SHATRUGHAN PRASAD SINGH : The Government of Bihar has sent its report which is pending with his Ministry. Whether the Government propose to help the backward states like Bihar and Orissa by examining this report?

*[English]*

MR. SPEAKER : The hon. Minister has stated that if there is a request from the State of Bihar, he would consider it.

SHRI S.R. BOMMAI : Sir, we will consider the request sympathetically and will try to implement it.

*[Translation]*

SHRI SHATRUGHAN PRASAD SINGH : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have a second supplementary to ask...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : You have already asked even the third supplementary.

SHRI SHATRUGHAN PRASAD SINGH : I have not asked. My one question has been replied to in three instalments.

Sir, by when the Government propose to construct building for those primary schools, which have no buildings?

*[English]*

SHRI S.R. BOMMAI : Sir, for Bihar we have a separate scheme, not DPEP. Under this separate scheme of Bihar Education Programme, we have given Rs. 31.30 crore...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Please do not confuse the mind of the hon. Minister. He has to listen to the question.

SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN : Sir, there has been a persistent demand from various quarters to make primary education a fundamental right under the Constitution of India. May I know from the hon. Minister as to whether the Government is seriously considering this particular aspect? If so, what positive steps are being taken by the Government to make primary education one of the fundamental rights under the Constitution?

SHRI S.R. BOMMAI : In the Common Minimum Programme accepted by the United Front Government, we have assured that education will be made a fundamental right. Already preparations are on to bring that decision into force...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN : My question was : What were the positive steps taken by the Government...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI S.R. BOMMAI : The necessary amendment would be brought forward...*(Interruptions)* The draft amEndment is already under consideration. We will move the amendment as early as possible ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN : Sir, we are hearing this for years together...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL : We are indeed very happy that the Government has taken a decision to include the right to education in the Chapter on Fundamental Rights. The Government should be congratulated for this. At the same time, we would like to know at least some details of the plan that the Government has made to include the right to education in the Chapter on Fundamental Rights and the machinery that would be used to provide this right to the children.

SHRI S.R. BOMMAI : Sir, after this Government came to power, within two months, I convened a meeting of the Chief Ministers wherein this matter was discussed. All the Chief Ministers have agreed to give top priority for primary education. After that, I convened a point meeting of the Education Ministers of all the States and the Education Secretaries and we discussed the issue for two day - how to have universal literacy by the end of the century and to make it a fundamental right. After the deliberations, a sub-committee was formed.

SHRI NITISH KUMAR : Is it before the end of this century or next century?

SHRI S.R. BOMMAI : I said, "...end of the century."

SHRI NITISH KUMAR : I thought that it was before the end of the next century.

SHRI S.R. BOMMAI : All right. If you think that way, I cannot help it.

Then, a sub-committee was formed under the Chairmanship of the Minister of State in this Ministry, Shri M.R. Saikia, of all the Ministers of the States, to work out the resources required, the school buildings required, the requirement of teachers, the requirement of laboratories and textbooks, etc. The sub-committee has met thrice. It is finally meeting in Kerala and would give me the report within 15 days. Then, I would go before the Cabinet for getting necessary resources to achieve this goal.

*[Translation]*

SHRI SATYA DEO SINGH : Mr. Speaker, I, through you, want to attract the attention of the hon. Minister to Uttar Pradesh. The Government did not allocate any fund for Uttar Pradesh under operation Blackboard and D.P.E.P. programmes for the year 1995-96. An amount of only Rs. 40 crore has been shown allocated to Uttar Pradesh under NEP. Sir, the hon'ble Minister has just now stated in reply to a question that the Government of Bihar did not ask for funds under DPEP, nor any proposal was sent by them. I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether any demand for fund under DPEP for the year 1995-96 was made by Uttar Pradesh, which is under President's Rule; if not, whether the Central Government, while discharging its responsibility, have given directions to the Government of Uttar Pradesh in this regard? Sir, Rs. 40 crore provided for non-formal education is being misappropriated. I hail from Gonda district. There, a Basic Education Officer has been suspended a few days back because Rs. 50 lakh meant for non-formal education were misappropriated by three-four persons. I want to know from the hon. Minister the measures proposed to be adopted by the Government for effective implementation of these programmes and eradication of corruption prevalent in the matter of non-formal education. Both these questions are very important and they should be properly replied to

*[English]*

SHRI S.R. BOMMAI : Sir, so far as UP is concerned, the DPEP scheme is not applicable but there are other schemes which are being implemented in UP and sufficient funds are also released for UP. The basic education project is being implemented specially in UP with the help of World Bank.

So far as the question about misappropriation is concerned, I do agree that there are instances of misappropriation and misuse of funds. We are trying to have more and more monitoring and we would like to take the help of the village panchayats and voluntary organisations in this matter.

*[Translation]*

SHRI SATYA DEO SINGH : My question is whether the hon. Minister would order an enquiry into the cases of corruption which took place in district Gonda ...*(Interruptions)* You will get an example as to how the funds are being misappropriated under this scheme. I am citing an example...*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

I am giving you one simple example.

MR. SPEAKER : No examples now.

*(Interruptions)*

SHRI S.R. BOMMAI : If you let me know the particular case, I will inquire into the matter.

SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR : Sir, only this morning, we had a very magnificent programme remembering our Constitution. Does the Minister remember that there is a Directive Principle in the Constitution that children till the age of 14 will get free and compulsory education?

If that Directive Principle was there, then why this new exercise for making education a fundamental right to the children? When this was already there in the Constitution, why did the Government not take some steps to implement the Directive Principle of State Policy in the Constitution? Why does he give all this story of State Education Ministers Conference and the attempts that he is making...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI S.R. BOMMAI : I completely agree with the hon. Member and our former Prime Minister. In spite of Article 45, it is unfortunate that in this country, still more than 40 per cent of the people are illiterate. In some State, more than 60 per cent of the people are illiterate, particularly women. There are districts in some States where only five per cent of the women are literate. Even the Supreme Court has ruled that it is obligatory on the part of the Government to give compulsory and free primary education. The intention is, if it is amended and made a fundamental right, then it will be justiciable for anybody to go to court and seek justice.

SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR : Will an illiterate Advasi be able to go to court? Let us not indulge in these things. These are serious matters...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI S.R. BOMMAI : I agree with you. We have to amend it. Our intention is, by the end of the century, we want universal education to be brought in the country and we are trying to do it...*(Interruptions)*

DR. ASIM BALA : This question is about free education. Operation Black Board, Mid-day Meal Scheme and other projects are also going on. But I would like to say that even in areas of SCs and STs, there is no improvement in education. I would like to know from the hon. Minister as to whether in the next Five Year Plan, the Government is going to introduce a special programme for areas fo Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes.

SHRI S.R. BOMMAI : We are contemplating to have more and more residential schools for SCs and STs.

## WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

*[English]*

### Allahabad University as Central University

*245. DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the present status of the proposal for making Allahabad University a Central University; and

(b) when the Government of Uttar Pradesh was asked to send its report in the matter and by when the Union Government are likely to take a decision on the take over of the University?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI S.R. BOMMAI) : (a) and (b). The issue of conversion of Allahabad University into a Central University has been under consideration of the Government for some time. In April, 1991,. a view emerged in a meeting, taken by the then Prime Minister, that State Universities which were established more than 100 years ago could be converted into Central Universities if the State Government concerned agree to it and are prepared to meet the assessed Non-Plan expenditure of the institution even after conversion.

In the case of Allahabad University, a Committee was set up consisting of representatives of the UGC and U.P. Government to assess, normatively, the Non-Plan expenditure of the University for the year 1990-91 for this purpose. This Committee assessed this expenditure at Rs. 8.55 Crores. However, the State Government have committed themselves to meet the liability of Rs. 6.46 Crores only being their actual contribution to the University for Non-Plan expenditure during 1990-91. Soon thereafter even Central Universities started facing the financial difficulties as the level of assistance to these universities could not keep pace with their projected requirements due to the need to contain budgetary deficit.

In view of the resource crunch being faced by the existing Central Universities and the inability of the State Government to fully meet the Non-Plan expenditure as assessed at 1990-91 level by the UGC Committee conversion of Allahabad University into a Central University is unlikely to materialise in the near future.

### Major Irrigation Projects

*246. SHRI P.C. THOMAS : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Centre has aided several States for Major Irrigation Projects, give details thereof with funds given State-wise and project-wise during the past five years;

(b) whether 'Muvattupuzha Valley Irrigation Project' in Kerala is given such or other aid (of other agencies); if so, details thereof and details of funds given or earmarked, how have they been utilised, the stage of work of the project;

(c) whether funds allotted for this scheme have been diverted for other works or temporarily withdrawn; if so, details thereof; and

(d) whether funds would be released so that the work is completed in time?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCE (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA) : (a) Yes, Sir.